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National Board

FOR PROFESSIONAL
TEACHING STANDARDS®

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ILLINOIS DOCUMENTS

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS-URBANA



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Illinois State Board of Education
100 North First Street
Springfield, Illinois 62777-0001

A New System for Illinois



A new three-level teacher licensure system will go into effect on February 15, 2000. Under this new system, *Initial Certificates* valid for four years of teaching will be issued to beginning teachers. Experienced teachers applying for renewal of Early Childhood, Elementary, High School, or Special Certificates will receive *Standard Certificates* valid for five years and renewable with proof of continuing professional development.

The third level of certification, the *Master Certificate*, will be available only to teachers who have earned National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) Certification. The *Master Certificate* will be valid for ten years.

Five Core Propositions

The following five core propositions are the heart of the National Board's work. The standards of accomplished practice for each certificate area flow from them and are measured by performance-based assessment tasks.

- Teachers are committed to students and their learning.
- Teachers know the subjects they teach and how to teach those subjects to their students.
- Teachers are responsible for managing and monitoring student learning.
- Teachers think systematically about their practice and learn from experience.
- Teachers are members of learning communities.

National Board Certification Areas

The following twelve certificates are currently available:

- Early Childhood/Generalist
- Middle Childhood/Generalist
- Early Adolescence/Generalist
- Early Adolescence/English Language Arts
- Early Adolescence/Mathematics
- Early Adolescence/Science
- Early Adolescence/Social Studies-History
- Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood/Art
- Adolescence and Young Adulthood/English Language Arts
- Adolescence and Young Adulthood/Mathematics
- Adolescence and Young Adulthood/Science
- Adolescence and Young Adulthood/Social Studies-History

These four certificates are being developed for availability in December 1999:

- Early Childhood through Young Adulthood/Exceptional Needs
- Early and Middle Childhood/English as a New Language
- Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood/English as a New Language
- Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood/Vocational Education

FEE SUPPORT

The Illinois State Board of Education will pay the \$2,000 application fee for a limited number of public school teachers who meet the National Board eligibility qualifications listed inside this brochure. Some school districts, Regional Offices of Education, professional organizations, businesses, and community groups may also pay application fees.

CERTIFICATION?

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the NBPTS website: www.nbpts.org
Call the NBPTS Board at 1-800-22TEACH.

WHAT IS NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFICATION?

National Board Certification is a voluntary system that measures the practice of experienced teachers against high and rigorous standards. An NBPTS certificate is a credential attesting that you have been assessed by your peers as a teacher who is accomplished, makes sound professional judgments about student learning and acts effectively on those judgments.

Illinois teachers who earn National Board Certification will qualify for the new *Master Certificate* and enter a ten-year professional development cycle for license renewal.

Why participate?

The National Board Certification process is

- a catalyst for your own professional growth.
- a method for recognizing accomplished teachers and the impact they have on student learning.
- an approved way to meet the new Illinois continuing professional development requirements.
- a process for developing reflective practitioners through an analysis of professional practices and student learning.
- an opportunity to meet and work with outstanding teachers from all parts of Illinois.
- the only way to attain the highest level of the new certification system.

Who can apply for National Board Certification?

Eligibility requires that teachers

- hold a bachelor's degree,
- have taught for a minimum of three years, and
- possess a valid state teaching license or have taught for a minimum of three years in schools recognized or approved to operate by the state.

What will I have to do?

Candidates participate over the course of the school year in a two-part assessment that includes

- A portfolio that includes student work, videotapes, and reflections on the effectiveness of their classroom practice; and
- Assessment center exercises designed to complement the portfolio and organized around challenging teaching issues.

Additional information is available at the NBPTS website: www.nbpts.org or you may call the National Board at 1-800-22TEACH.

Request for Information

If you would like more information, please complete the following:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail address _____

Please send:

- General information about NBPTS
- An NBPTS application
- An NBPTS application and an application for fee support

Mail or fax this request for information to:

Illinois State Board of Education
Professional Development Redesign
100 North First Street
Springfield, IL 62777-0001
Phone: 217/782-4330
Fax: 217/524-1289

SELECTION

An ongoing selection process for fee support will begin in July 1999 and continue through October 1999, as funding allows.

APPLICATION DEADLINES

OCTOBER 29, 1999—ISBE Fee Support
DECEMBER 1, 1999—NBPTS Applications
EARLY APPLICATION IS ENCOURAGED.

An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

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